AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 49. (Canceled).

50. (Previously Presented) A method for treating and/or preventing restenosis in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent restenosis.

51. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 50, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

52. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 50, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a biologically compatible medium in naked form.

53. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 50, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, Sendai virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

54. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 50, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

55. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 52, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

56. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 50, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

57. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 50, wherein the mammal is a human.

58. (Previously Presented) A method for treating and/or preventing blood vessel thickening in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent blood vessel thickening.

59. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 58, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

60. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 58, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a biologically compatible medium in naked form.

61. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 58, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, Sendai virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

62. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 58, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

63. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 60, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

64. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 58, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

65. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 58, wherein the mammal is a human.

66. (Previously Presented) A method for treating and/or preventing restenosis in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising an extracellular superoxide dismutase in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent restenosis.

67. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

68. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 66, wherein the protein ~~nucleic acid~~ is present in a biologically compatible medium ~~in naked form~~.

69. (Canceled)

70. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 66, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

71. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 68, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

72. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

73. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, wherein the mammal is a human.

74. (Previously Presented) A method for treating and/or preventing blood vessel thickening in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising an extracellular superoxide dismutase in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent blood vessel thickening.

75. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 74, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

76. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 74, wherein the protein ~~nucleic acid~~ is present in a biologically compatible medium ~~in naked form~~.

77. (Canceled)

78. (Currently Amended) A method according claim 74, wherein the protein ~~nucleic acid~~ is present in a liposome.

79. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 76, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

80. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 74, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

81. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 74, wherein the mammal is a human.

82. (Currently Amended) A method for treating and/or preventing restenosis in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a nucleic acid and a biologically compatible medium in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent restenosis, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product ~~that leads to the production~~ of extracellular superoxide dismutase protein.

83. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 82, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

84. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid is present in naked form.

85. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, Sendai virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

86. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 82, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

87. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 82, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

88. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 82, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

89. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 82, wherein the mammal is a human.

90. (Currently Amended) A method for treating and/or preventing blood vessel thickening in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a nucleic acid and a biologically compatible medium in an amount sufficient to reduce and/or prevent blood vessel thickening, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product that ~~leads to the production~~ of extracellular superoxide dismutase.

91. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 90, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

92. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid is in naked form.

93. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, ~~Sendai~~ lenti virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

94. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

95. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 90, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

96. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 90, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

97. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 90, wherein the mammal is a human.

98. (Currently Amended) A method for decreasing macrophage accumulation in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition in an amount sufficient to decrease macrophage accumulation, wherein the composition comprises a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase, an extracellular superoxide dismutase protein, or a nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product ~~that leads to the production~~ of extracellular superoxide dismutase protein.

99. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 98, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

100. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 98, wherein the nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium is in naked form.

101. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 98, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, ~~Sendai~~ lenti virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

102. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 98, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

103. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 98, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

104. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 98, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

105. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 98, wherein the mammal is a human.

106. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing endothelial cell growth in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition in an amount sufficient to increase endothelial cell growth, wherein the composition comprises a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase, an extracellular superoxide dismutase protein, or a nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product ~~that leads to the production~~ of extra cellular superoxide dismutase protein.

107. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

108. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein the nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium is in naked form.

109. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 106, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, ~~Sendai~~ lenti virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

110. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 106, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

111. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 106, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

112. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

113. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein the mammal is a human.

114. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibition of hyperplastic connective tissue growth and/or promoting endothelialisation in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit hyperplastic connective tissue growth and/or promote endothelialisation, wherein the composition comprises a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase, an extracellular superoxide dismutase protein, or a nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product ~~that leads to the production~~ of extracellular superoxide dismutase protein.

115. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 114, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

116. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 114, wherein the nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium is in naked form.

117. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 114, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, ~~Sendai~~ lenti virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

118. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 114 wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

119. (Previously Presented) A method according to claims 114, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

120. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 114, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

121. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 114, wherein the mammal is a human.

122. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting hyperplastic connective tissue growth, or fibromuscular formation and/or promoting endothelialisation in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit hyperplastic connective tissue growth, or fibromuscular formation, and/or promote endothelialisation, wherein the composition comprises a nucleic acid encoding extracellular superoxide dismutase, an extracellular superoxide dismutase protein, or a nucleic acid present in a biologically compatible medium, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a translation or transcription product ~~that leads to the production~~ of extracellular superoxide dismutase protein.

123. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 122, wherein the composition is administered by local or systemic delivery.

124. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 122, wherein the nucleic acid in a biologically compatible medium is present in naked form.

125. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 122, wherein the nucleic acid is in a viral vector selected from the group consisting of retrovirus, ~~Sendai~~ lenti virus, adeno-associated virus and adenovirus.

126. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 122, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a liposome.

127. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 122, wherein the biologically compatible medium is a biostable polymer, a bioabsorbable polymer, a biomolecule, a hydrogel polymer or fibrin.

128. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 122, wherein the step of administering the composition is repeated at least once.

129. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 122, wherein the mammal is a human.